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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/647,084	08/21/2003	Petro Estakhri	LEXA-00206	1728

28960 7590 03/31/2005

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, MIKE

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2182

DATE MAILED: 03/31/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/647,084

Applicant(s)

ESTAKHRI ET AL.

Examiner

Mike Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 December 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 11/22/04, 6/21/04, 4/16/04, 3/8/04, 3/5/04,
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Notices & Remarks

1. Claims 1-5 are pending for the examination.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. It is desirable to avoid the submission of long lists of documents if it can be avoided. Eliminate clearly irrelevant and marginally pertinent cumulative information. If a long list is submitted, highlight those documents which have been specifically brought to applicant's attention and/or are known to be of most significance. See *Penn Yan Boats, Inc. v. Sea Lark Boats, Inc.*, 359 F. Supp. 948, 175 USPQ 260 (S.D. Fla. 1972), *aff'd*, 479 F.2d 1338, 178 USPQ 577 (5th Cir. 1973), *cert. denied*, 414 U.S. 874 (1974). But cf. *Molins PLC v. Textron Inc.*, 48 F.3d 1172, 33 USPQ2d 1823 (Fed. Cir. 1995).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Jones (U.S. Pat. No. 5,928,347).

As to claim 1, Jones teaches a flash memory card interfacing system (interface apparatus 10 of figs 2 and 3) for detachably coupling to a host computer system (host computer 156 of fig. 3), the flash memory card interfacing system also configured for performing data storage and

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control operations (col. 5 lines 16-50), the flash memory card interfacing system comprising: a device (USB interface 144) for connecting a flash memory card (ATA memory card 62) to a USB port (connector 140).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 2 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jones in view of Shahar et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,922,055).

As to claim 2, Shahar teaches a flash memory card interfacing system (Plug and Play card 1 of fig. 4) for coupling a flash memory device (EEPROM 3 wherein the EEPROM 3 is access programmable non-volatile memory device) to a signal line 9 (fig. 4), the flash memory card interfacing system comprising:

- a. a flash memory module (EEPROM 3) for executing a write operation, a read operation, and an erase operation (col. 5 line 24 to col. 6 line 13);
- b. an interface device (micro controller 2) for coupling the flash memory card to a ISA port (it is inherently a standard ISA Plug and Play interface 4 has a ISA port);
- c. a standard ISA Plug and Play interface 4 (fig. 4) for connecting the signal line 9, sending and receiving signals, and coupling the interface device to the flash memory card (col. 5 lines 23-50);

d. a flash controller (Plug and Play controller 8 of fig. 4) coupled to the flash memory module and the ISA PnP interface 4, the flash controller controlling the ISA PnP interface 4 and configuring the flash memory card to a selected operating mode of the interface device (col. 5 line 31 to col. 6 line 13); and

f. flash interface circuitry (logic circuitry 14 of fig. 4) coupled to the controller, the flash interface circuitry identifying the selected operating mode of the interface device (col. 6 line 66 to col. 7 line 10).

Although Shahar teaches substantial features (discussed above), he fails to explicitly teach a USB bus, a USB port and a USB connector. Jones; however, teaches the USB bus, the USB port and the USB connector (connector 140 and USB interface 144 of figs 2 and 3). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to have the USB interface in order to provide high data transfer rate, connecting up 127 devices and Plug and Play installation.

As to claim 3, Jones teaches a universal serial bus mode (col. 7 lines 30-34 and col. 9 lines 24-27).

7. Claims 4 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Jones and Shahar in view of Jigour et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,877,975).

As to claims 4 and 5, the combination fails to explicitly teach a fifty pin connector or a sixty eight pin connector. Jigour; however, teaches the fifty pin connector or the sixty eight pin connector (col. 2 lines 6-46). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary in skill of the art to have the fifty pin connector or the sixty eight connector in order to provide adequate for

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computer and supporting the IDE/ATA interface standard by means of an on card ATA controller IC (col. 2 lines 8 and 34-37).


Conclusion

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mike Nguyen whose telephone number is 571 272-4153. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00AM-4:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey Gaffin can be reached on 571 272-4146. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Mike Nguyen
Patent Examiner
Group Art Unit 2182


JEFFREY GAFFIN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

03/28/2005